



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/520,240	03/07/2000	Daigo Taguchi	016778/0407	9298
22428	7590	02/10/2004	EXAMINER	
FOLEY AND LARDNER SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007			TRAN, MYLINH T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	9

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/520,240

Applicant(s)

TAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Mylinh T Tran

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Amendment filed 1-24.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's Amendment filed 11/25/03 has been entered and carefully considered. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 13, 15-18 and 21 have been amended. Claim 12 has been canceled. However, limitations of amended claims have not been found be patentable over the prior arts of record, therefore, claims 1-11 and 13-24 are rejected under the same ground of rejection as set forth in the Office Action mailed (08/29/03).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scott et al. [US. 5,675,752] in view of Davis et al. [US. 5,969,716].

As to claims 1 and 9, Scott et al. discloses a scenario memory for memorizing the scenario (column 7, lines 40-53); a scenario rule memory for memorizing a scenario basic rule which defines specifications of a complete state of the multimedia contents (column 10, lines 50-65 and column 14, lines 5-8); and a scenario supplementing unit connected to said scenario memory, said scenario rule memory, and said receiving unit for supplementing the scenario according to the scenario basic rule so that the additional material is included in the

multimedia contents to make the multimedia contents approach the complete state (figure 7A-8B, column 14, lines 30-45 and column 15, lines 45-55); and

A scenario rule memory connected to said scenario supplementing unit for memorizing a scenario basic rule defining specifications of a complete state of the multimedia contents, wherein said scenario supplementing unit supplements the scenario according to the scenario basic rule (column 10, lines 50-65). The difference between Scott et al. and the claim is a receiving unit for receiving an additional data set which represents an additional material necessary to complete the multimedia contents. Although Scott teaches the receiving unit (figure 7A, View, Expand, column 14, lines 31-42), Davis shows the feature clearly at column 3, lines 1-20 and column 9, lines 55-68). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Scott et al. and Davis et al. before them at the time the invention was made to modify the scenario rules taught by Scott et al. to include the input unit of Davis et al., with the motivation being to fill out the space in a content faster as taught by Davis et al.

As to claims 2, 10 and 18, Scott et al. shows a scenario converting unit connected to said scenario memory and said scenario rule memory for converting the scenario memorized in said scenario memory with the scenario basic rule into an exhibiting electronic document which is used for exhibiting the multimedia content (column 9, line 60 through column 10, line 25).

As to claims 3 and 19, Scott et al. also shows connecting unit connected to the scenario converting unit for connecting the scenario converting unit to a computer network to exhibit the multimedia contents on said computer network (column 2, lines 20-40 and column 9, line 60 through column 10, line 25).

As to claims 4, 11 and 20 Davis shows receiving unit is connected to said computer network to receive the additional data set through said computer network (column 3, lines 49-60).

As to claims 5, 13 and 21, Scott shows analyzing the scenario memorized in the scenario memory with the scenario basic rule memorized in the scenario rule memory to produce a lacking data list and to supply the lacking data list for said scenario converting unit, and said scenario converting unit including the lacking data list with the multimedia contents as one of the materials (figure 5-figure 7B, column 13, line 48 through column 14, line 55).

As to claims 6, 14 and 22, while Scott shows the converting unit, Davis teaches the scenario analyzing unit renews the scenario completion degree information whenever said receiving unit receives the additional data set (column 8, lines 35-55 and column 9, lines 10-30).

As to claims 7, 8, 15 and 16, Scott et al. demonstrates a scenario editing unit connected to said scenario memory for producing and editing the scenario (column 2, lines 41-60).

As to claim 23, Scott et al provides the step of producing the scenario at a scenario editing unit to memorize the scenario into the scenario memory (column 2, lines 20-55).

As to claim 24, Scott et al. also provides the step of producing the scenario basic rule at a scenario rule editing unit to memorize the scenario basic rule into the scenario rule memory (column 14, lines 1-10 and 32-43).

Response to Arguments

Applicant has argued Scott does not teach or suggest "any elements that store a basic rule defining a complete state of multimedia contents, a scenario supplementing unit connected to the scenario rule memory". However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant. Applicant's attention is directed to the lines of column 10, lines 50-67 "provides the capability to link together a set of menus and application screens to create a particular interactive applications environment...the screen hierarchy establishes paths for the display screen to define an interactive applications environment" and "The placement of the pay per view video and pay per view games application screens automatically expands the corresponding hierarchical level to show the new placement. Because only one branch of a parent menu is expandable at any one particular time, the audio, video and games application screens were reduced into the entertainment menu screen..." which are suggested the rule defining a complete state of multimedia contents by creating a particular

interactive applications environment and how to organize a complete all levels in hierarchy.

Also, Applicant argues Scott does not teach the receiving unit for receiving additional multimedia content. However, the Examiner cited Davis for this feature. Davis shows the receiving unit at column 3, lines 1-20 and column 9, lines 55-68, "the information that is obtained from the content representation of a media signal is fed to a media producer which defines a functional relationship between input media signals and content representations, to produce the new media production...".

Next, in response to the feature "a lacking data list", Applicant's attention is directed to figure 5 and 6, list of data lacks are suggested here.

Regarding claims 6, 14 and 22, Applicant's attention is directed the Davis's system at column 8, lines 35-55 and column 9, lines 10-65.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires fax a response, (703) 872-9306, may be used for all communications. NOTE, A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for information facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-1304. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8.00AM to 4.30PM


If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner 's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640,

Art Unit: 2174

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Mylinh Tran

Art Unit 2174



SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER